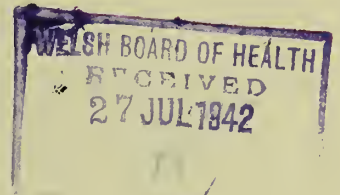


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CONNAN'S QUAY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

1941

Connah's Quay,
Flints,
July, 1942.

W.N.P. Williams,
Medical Officer of Health

CONNAH'S QUAY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

To the Chairman and Members of the
Connah's Quay Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

My Report on the health of the District for 1941 is drawn up in the manner suggested in Circular 1961 (Wales) issued by the Ministry of Health. Except for any alterations, improvements, or developments, the Report is similar to that of last year.

SECTION A

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area: 4,214 acres.

Population: -

Rateable Value: £39,523.
Sum represented by 1d rate £151

Number of Inhabited
houses: -

Number of Families: -

Social Conditions.

The Urban District of Connah's Quay is on the West bank of the River Dee, and towards the East of the County of Flint. Climatic conditions are reasonably good throughout the year, and usually mild in character during all seasons, particularly in winter months, making the district a healthy one to live in.

Unemployment in the Area is at a minimum, and the definitely increased prosperity of the workers is reflected in the relatively increased happiness and appearance of the children.

The provision of outdoor play-grounds, which is being encouraged so much, should help materially in producing the A.I. type so desirable to the nation. Occupational diseases and associate troubles are at a minimum in the area.

The Accident Incidence appears to keep at much the same level year. Road accidents (motor and other vehicles) were not numerous but actual numbers of these are not available.

Vital Statistics

<u>Births.</u>	M.	F.	Total.
Live Births - Total	79	67	146
Legitimate	78	65	143
Illegitimate	1	2	3
Still Births - Total	2	4	6
Legitimate	2	4	6
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population.		22.1	
Still birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)		41.9	

Comparative Table of Birth Rates. Area. Eng. and Wales

1937	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17.5	..	..	14.9
1938	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22.9	..	..	15.1
1939	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19.6	..	..	15.0
1940	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21.9	..	..	14.6
1941	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22.1	..	..	14.2

<u>Deaths.</u>	M.	F.	Total.
No. of Deaths from all causes	30	22	52

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population: 7.8

Death from Puerperal Causes:
 No. 29 Sepsis. Nil
 No. 30 other puerperal causes Nil

Death rate per 1,000 total births. Nil

	M.	F.	Total
Deaths of infants under 1 year	3	3	6

Death rate of all infants per 1,000 live births. 41.9
 Legitimate per 1,000 legitimate live births: 34.9

 Illegitimate per 1,000 illegitimate live births: 333.3

	M.	F.	Total
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	7	5	12
" Measles (all ages)	-	-	-
" Whooping Cough (all ages)	-	1	1
" Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	-	-	-

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year which has received or required comment upon; nor any specially noteworthy cause of sickness, invalidity, or other feature prejudicial to the health of the neighbourhood.

Comparative Table of Death Rates Area Eng. and Wales

1937	..	..	..	..	9.5	..	..	12.4
1938	..	..	..	..	9.003	..	..	11.6
1939	..	..	..	..	9.5	..	..	12.1
1940	..	..	..	..	10.5	..	..	14.3
1941	..	..	..	..	7.8	..	..	12.9

Table of Causes of Deaths

	M.	F.	Total
Influenza.. .. .	1	2	3
Tuberculosis of Resp.Sys.	2	-	2
Cancer	7	5	12
Appendicitis.. . . .	1	-	1
Pneumonia	-	1	1
Bronchitis	3	-	3
Heart Disease.	2	1	3
Cerebral Hemorrhage	2	2	4
Violence	3	-	3
Other defined diseases	3	5	8
Premature Birth	2	-	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	-	1
Other Digestive Diseases.. . . .	-	1	1
Congenital Malforms (Infant)	1	1	2
Whooping Cough	-	1	1
Diphtheria	-	1	1
Ulcer of Stomach.. . . .	1	-	1
Nephritis	1	1	2
	<u>30</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>52</u>

SECTION BGeneral Provision of Health Services for the Area.

1. Medical: W.Neville P.Williams, L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Edin.),
L.R.F.P.S. (Glas.), Medical Officer of Health
(part-time).

Other: Henry Jones, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., M.Inst.M. & Cy.E.
Sanitary Inspector, etc. (full-time)
Appointed 1.8.34.

2. Laboratory Facilities: Emergency Public Health Laboratory
Service,
Castle Bank, Conway.

(b) Ambulance Facilities: No change.

(c) Nursing in the home: No change.

(d) Treatment Centres and Clinics: No change.

(e) Hospitals - Public and Voluntary: No change.

SECTION C.

3.

Sanitary circumstances of the area.

1. (1) Water

The local supply has now been completely overhauled, fliter beds renewed and softening tanks introduced along with clorification, resulting in a purer and more palatable water than hitherto. As the process of purification goes on, still better results can be anticipated and then source of supply can be looked on as satisfactory and further complaints become unwarranted. The "hardness of the water" left something to be desired, but has improved of late.

Analysis of the water during the year gave the following results. Samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination:

Bacteriological Examination Reports :-

Sample taken 7/1/41	Remarks - Satisfactory.
Sample taken 28/3/41	Remarks - Not quite up to standard for a chlorinated water.
Sample taken 2/5/41	Remarks - Satisfactory.
Sample taken 29/5/41	Remarks - Very satisfactory. (Birkenhead Supply).
Sample taken 29/5/41	Remarks - Very satisfactory.
Sample taken 1/7/41	Remarks - Satisfactory.
Sample taken 1/7/41	Remarks - Satisfactory (Birkenhead supply)
Sample taken 25/8/41	Remarks - Satisfactory.
Sample taken 25/8/41	Remarks - Satisfactory (Birkenhead supply)
Sample taken 30/9/41	Remarks - Satisfactory (Birkenhead supply)
Sample taken 30/9/41	Remarks - Satisfactory.

No chemical examination was made.

No extension of mains was required during the year.

(2) Drainage and Sewerage

Little trouble has been experienced with the drainage. There has been the usual stoppages due to misuse, but they were generally cleared the same day. Where necessary the owners were called upon to do repairs or improvements.

The old sewer in Golftyn Street became blocked because of its defective construction, and an improvement was carried out.

There has not been a single case of flooding in Spring Street since I carried out a small improvement there a short time after my appointment.

2. Rivers and Streams

The stream which passes under "The New Inn" was cleared of rubbish on several occasions. No action was taken during the year with regard to checking pollution of rivers and streams in the area.

(1)

3. Closet Accommodation

The owner of the premises at which there are 5 privy-middens in Lower Brook Street is willing to have them converted into water closets, but cannot get a builder to do the work. Several ancient

(2) Public Cleansing

Although the numerous jobs which arose on account of the war frequently disorganised the system of street cleansing no complaints were received during the year. The difficulty of obtaining extra labour did not help matters.

The refuse collection and disposal system of street cleansing complaints were received during the year. The difficulty of obtaining extra labour did not help matters.

The refuse collection and disposal system worked satisfactorily and without complaints although salvage work has added to the work.

No new streets were added during the year.

(3) Sanitary Inspection of the Area

There was again little to note of an unsatisfactory nature of sanitary conditions in the area. There are no outstanding complaints.

Improvements in the offal dump at the Government Slaughterhouse eventually effected, but it is important to remove the offal to the nearby farms as frequently as possible.

(4) Shops and Offices

Shops are inspected as occasion demands. No action has been necessary during the year under the Shops Act, 1934, relating to ventilation and temperature of shops and their sanitary conveniences.

(5) Camping Sites.

There are no camping sites in the Area and no licenses have been issued by the Local Authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

(6) Smoke Abatement

No action has been taken under the Act.

(7) Swimming Baths and Pools

There are no swimming baths (or Pools) in the area. Open-air bathing takes place in the River during the warm periods. Beach guards are appointed for the season, but as the water is definitely unsatisfactory for bathing in, and the river bed dangerous it would be decidedly better if the practice were discouraged. Alternatively, the provision of Swimming Baths has much to recommend itself.

(8) Eradication of Bed Bugs

(a) No. of houses (Council) found infested	Nil
No. of houses (Council) disinfected	Nil

(b) No. of houses (Others) found infested	2.
(c) No. of houses (Others) disinfected	2.

(The premises were sprayed with Cromessol Co. Ltd Solution B with satisfactory results.)

(9) Schools

The schools were inspected and found to be in good condition, the sanitary conditions being satisfactory.

There was no occasion during the year when any infection was sufficiently severe to warrant closing of any schools in the Area.

All acts of infectious disease are segregated for the usual quarantine periods.

SECTION D.

Housing.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose:
- (2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Consolidated Regulations, 1925-1932:
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose:
- (3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation:
- (4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under (3) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation:

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notice.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal notice by the Local Authority or their Officers:

3. Action under Statutory Powers.

(a) Proceedings under Sect. 9, 10, and 16 of Housing Act 1936.

- (1) No. of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs:
- (2) No. of dwelling houses rendered fit after service of formal notices:
 - (a) By owners:
 - (b) By Local Authority in default:

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- (1) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied:
- (2) No. of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:
 - (a) By owners:
 - (b) By Local Authority in default:

(c) Proceedings under Sects. 11 and 13 of Housing Act 1936.

- (1) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made:
- (2) No. of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders:

(d) Proceedings under Sect. 12 of Housing Act 1936.

- (1) No. of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made:
- (2) No. of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit:

4. Housing Act 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding

- (a) 1. No. of dwelling houses overcrowded at end of year
- 2. No. of families dwelling therein:
- 3. No. of persons dwelling therein:
- (b) No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year:
- (c) 1. No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.
- 2. No. of persons concerned in such cases:
- (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have become overcrowded after the Local Authority has taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding:
- (e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding:

housing conditions, as you are aware, are more or less in a state of total inactivity. Houses are as usual regularly inspected, and complaints from householders investigated and remedied. Informal notices are usually sufficient for the compliance of the request to remove defects by owners. Council property is in this respect well attended to, although it appears that the occupiers are not great respectors of property, from the amount of repairs done during the year. Overcrowding is not excessive and not different to last year, no fresh cases having been reported during the period.

In December 1940 the Council appointed a Works Superintendent who inspects Council and other houses regularly.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) Farms and dairies in the Area have had the annual inspection and there is nothing on which to report different from last year. Examination of milk for quality and bacterial content is under the direction of the County Council.

(b) Meat and Other Foods.

Inspection of meat, shops, vehicles purveying, and slaughter houses was made during the year. Meat is wholesome, shops are kept clean, vehicles are clean, and commodities are kept covered while in transit.

Other foodstuffs displayed for sale appear to be thoroughly fresh and appetising. The quantity of tinned meat needing condemnation is on the increase. Shop inspection has disclosed nothing of which to complain.

Carcases inspected and condemned.

	Cattle ex- cluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
No. killed (if known)	N O T K N O W N.				
Number inspected.	Majority of those killed.				
<u>All Diseases except T.B.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.	O.	O.	1 32lbs.	16 377 lbs.	O.
Carcasses part or organ of which condemned.	A	B	O .	1178 lbs	Nil.
<u>Percentage of these.</u>	N O T K N O W N .				.
<u>T.B. Only.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.	O.	12 4544 lbs.	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned.	C.	D.	O.	O.	634 lbs.
<u>Percentage of these.</u>	N O T K N O W N.				

Total weight of A.B.C.D.= 6832 lbs. Items not separated in the records. A new form of "Condemned Meat" slip is now in use and should provide more information for 1942.

- (c) Adulteration.
No action has been necessary under this heading.
- (d) Chemical and bacteriological examination of Food.
This is under the control of the County Council.
- (e) Nutrition.
No action.
- (f) Shellfish (Molluscan)
There are no shellfish beds in the Area.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of, and control over, Infections and other Diseases. General.

Influenza ravages were not so prevalent during the year.

Scarlet Fever cases that occur in houses where satisfactory isolation can be obtained are kept at home. All others are sent to Hospital, and the authorities there co-operate in sending home as soon as possible uncomplicated cases.

Diphtheria Immunization.

Immunization is being carried on, and the response is generally favourable but somewhat slow.

No use has been made of measles serum, either for Prophylaxis or attenuation.

Premises and contacts of infections are duly disinfected, or provided with the means of securing the result under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. School children contacts are segregated for the usual periods.

Bedding from deceased cases of tuberculosis and cancer is destroyed under the Sanitary Officer's direction, owners being suitably compensated.

Annual "Rat Week" is duly organized and advertised, and the public are supplied with poison on request.

Notifiable Cases (other than T.B.) during 1940

<u>Diseases.</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Cases.</u>	<u>Admitted</u> <u>to</u> <u>Hospital.</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>
Enteric Fever	2	2	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	0
Diphtheria	7	7	0
Pneumonia	18	-	1
Scarlet Fever	24	24	0
Measles	12	0	0
Whooping Cough	19	0	1
Meningitis C.G.	5	5	0
	<u>88</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>2</u>

Analysis of Notified Cases according to Age.

Under 1 year.	...	...	...	7
Over 1 year.	...	...	...	5
Over 2 years.	...	...	...	9
Over 3 years.	...	...	...	15
Over 4 years.	...	...	...	9
Over 5 years.	...	...	...	20
Over 10 years.	...	...	...	7
Over 20 years.	...	...	...	8
Over 35 years.	...	...	...	4
Over 45 years.	...	...	...	4
Over 65 years.	...	...	...	0

88

Prevention of Blindness.

No action has been taken under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from disease or injury to the eyes.

Tuberculosis.

No action has been necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade), or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, (relating to the compulsory removal of persons suffering from Tuberculosis to hospital).

New Cases and Mortality during 1941.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.		Resp.		Non. resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
and up.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

1. No deaths have occurred in non-notified cases of T.B. in the Area, and no difficulty is experienced in the notification of T.B. practitioners.

2. There is no evidence of, or mortality from, tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the Area.

The opportunity afforded in this report of expressing my appreciation of the valuable help and courtesy always extended to me by the Council and its officials is always a pleasure to record.

I am,
Yours obediently,

NEVILLE WILLIAMS.

